

REMARKS

Claims 1-49 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-22, 24-28, and 30-49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Christie (U.S. Patent No. 6,516,395). Claims 4, 23, and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Christie. The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Christie describes dividing a model specific register (MSR) address space 302 into a plurality of regions associated with access attributes of the model specific register. The physical address of an MSR indicates to which region the MSR is allocated. Moreover, since each region is associated with specific address attributes, the physical address also identifies the access attributes of the MSR. The access attributes include a desired privilege level for accessing the MSR, as well as read or write limitations. See Christie, col. 13, ll. 30-38 and Figure 3B. The Examiner refers to the access attributes as "security attributes." Accordingly, Christie appears to describe receiving a physical address within a selected memory page and security attributes of the selected memory page, e.g. access attributes such as a desired privilege level for accessing the MSR and read or write limitations.

However, Applicants submit that Christie does not describe or suggest using the physical address to access at least one security attribute data structure located in the memory to obtain an additional security attribute of the selected memory page, as set forth in independent claims 1, 11-13, 30, and 41. First, Christie appears to be completely silent with regard to a security attribute data structure located in the memory, such as the security attribute table directory and the security attribute table set forth in claims 3, 22, 31, and 42. Second, Christie appears to be completely silent with regard to the additional security attributes of the selected memory page.

Christie only appears to teach the access attributes associated with the regions including the corresponding model specific register.

For at least the aforementioned reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not anticipated by Christie and request that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-3, 5-22, 24-28, and 30-49 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) be withdrawn.

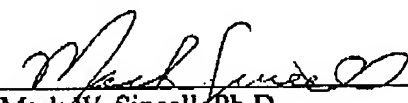
According to MPEP §706.02(l)(1), "effective November 29, 1999, subject matter which was prior art under former 35 U.S.C. 103 via 35 U.S.C. 102(e) is now disqualified as prior art against the claimed invention if that subject matter and the claimed invention 'were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.'" The present application was filed on or after November 29, 1999. Furthermore, the present application and Christie were, at the time the present invention was made, owned by the same entity or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same entity. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Christie is not available as prior art in any obviousness determination. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's rejections of 4, 23, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn.

For the aforementioned reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4052 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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